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NEWS RELEASE

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Order Entered Against Promoter of Advance Fee Scheme ***Investor paid \$5,250 based on a promised \$5 million loan ...***

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah – The Utah Division of Securities today entered an order against Virgil G. Smock, of Bluffdale, and his company E&V Investments, Inc. of Salt Lake. The Cease and Desist Order was entered by default after Smock and E&V failed to file a response or defend themselves in the Division's enforcement action. The Order finds that Smock and E&V took \$5,250 from an investor by promising to make a low interest loan of \$5 million.

Smock and E&V claimed to be a loan broker. According to the Order, E&V Investments guaranteed funding for the \$5 million loan. The investor never received the promised loan or any value for the advance fee paid. Smock and E&V failed to disclose to the investor that Smock had declared bankruptcy in 1996 and had unpaid money judgments entered against him. In addition, the investor was not told that E&V's salesman, Roy A. Clarkston, had a criminal record, having been convicted in 1995 of money laundering in Texas.

These proceedings were initiated in October 2005 against Smock, E&V, Clarkston, and Masada Capital. In November 2005, Clarkston and Masada consented to an order that they cease and desist violating the law and they repaid the victim the amount of his investment plus interest.

Today's default order finds that Smock and E&V violated the law by failing to disclose material information and orders them to cease and desist from any violations of the law. E&V is ordered to pay a \$5,000 fine. Smock was ordered to pay a reduced fine of \$500, based on a payment he submitted in connection with earlier settlement discussions.

Francine Giani, Executive Director of the Department of Commerce warned citizens not to pay advance fees for any loan. "No legitimate lender requires the payment of loan fees in advance of making a loan," said Giani.

Investors are urged to contact the Division to make sure anyone offering investments is licensed. 801.530.6600, or toll free at 1.800.721.7233. www.securities.utah.gov.